

APPENDIX C: SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

Species of special consideration is a broad term intended to encompass names used by managing agencies such as sensitive species, species of special concern, endangered, threatened, etc. Some terms can vary appreciably in formality or use and the criteria for species status can vary among agencies. In addition, most taxa carry more than one listing status or designation.

The sensitive species analysis included all species within the Death Valley National Park, a 3.3 million acre area of California and a small part of Nevada. This analysis found that Death Valley National Park supports roughly 125 plant and animal species of special consideration. These include species that are endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species under the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; endangered, threatened, proposed, or rare under the California Endangered Species Act; or agency-defined sensitive or endemic species of special concern. The following tables show these protective designations or others defined by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) or the California/Nevada Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB/NNDDDB).

Habitats that support one or more species of special consideration were reviewed in this planning effort, although not typically given legal protective status by agencies, as are individual species. Because of this, habitats of special consideration may also be referred to throughout this document as “sensitive habitats.” Those sensitive habitats which were a focus of plan review were riparian, wetland, sand dune and wash habitats as well as widespread or local habitats key in supporting desert tortoise, bats, bighorn sheep, carbonate plants and a variety of endemic species.

TABLE C-1: ANIMALS OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WITHIN DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
(Federally or State Listed or Proposed Species known to occur within Death Valley National Park are bolded)

ANIMAL SPECIES		LISTING STATUS	
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State
BIRDS			
Cooper's hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperi</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
tricolored blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	NPS SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Protected under the Bald Eagle Protection Act	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
long-eared owl	<i>Asio otus</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
western burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia-hypugea</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
ferruginous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	NPS SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>		Threatened
western snowy plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Coastal populations are listed Threatened; Inland populations are not. NPS SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
northern harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
western yellow billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>		Endangered
yellow warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Endangered	(<i>Empidonax traillii</i> is state listed Endangered)
prairie falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
yellow-breasted chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
western least bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis hesperis</i>	NPS SS	
California grey-headed junco	<i>Junco hyemalis caniceps</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	NPS SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"

ANIMAL SPECIES		LISTING STATUS	
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State
elf owl	<i>Micrathene whitneyi</i>		Endangered
hepatic tanager	<i>Piranga flava</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
summer tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
white-faced ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	NPS SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
black-tailed gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila melanura</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
vermillion flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Bendire' thrasher	<i>Toxostoma bendirei</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Crissal thrasher	<i>Toxostoma crissale</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Le Conte' thrasher	<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Virginia's warbler	<i>Vermivora virginiae</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
least Bells vireo	<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	Endangered	Endangered
gray vireo	<i>Vireo vicinior</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
MAMMALS			
desert pallid bat	<i>Antrozous pallida</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens</i>	NPS SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Western mastiff bat	<i>Eumops perotis</i>		Recommended for inclusion in this table by CDF&G
Big free-tailed bat	<i>Nyctinompos macrotis</i>		Recommended for inclusion in this table by CDF&G
Pocketed free-tailed bat	<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>		Recommended for inclusion in this table by CDF&G
Fringed myotis	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>		Recommended for inclusion in this table by CDF&G
California leaf-nosed bat	<i>Macrotus californicus</i>		Recommended for inclusion in this table by CDF&G (not recorded within Park but found at southern boundary)
Western red bat	<i>Lasiurus blossevillei</i>		Recommended for inclusion in this table by CDF&G (identified as threatened by Western Bat Working Group)
Panamint kangaroo rat	<i>Dipodomys panamintinus panamintinus</i>		
desert bighorn sheep	<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>	BLM SS	
Mohave ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus mohavensis</i>	NPS SS	Threatened
american badger	<i>Taxidea taxus</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Amargosa southern pocket gopher	<i>Thomomys umbrinus amargosae</i>	NPS SS	
AMPHIBIANS			
Inyo Mountains salamander	<i>Batrachoseps campi</i>	BLM SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern" (no record within Death Valley, but may potentially be present)
black toad	<i>Bufo exsul</i>		Threatened
REPTILES			
Panamint alligator lizard	<i>Elgaria panamintinus</i>	NPS SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
desert tortoise	<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>	Threatened	Threatened
rosy boa	<i>Lichanura trivirgata</i>	NPS SS	
chuckwalla	<i>Sauromalus obesus</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
FISH			
Devils Hole Pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon diabolis</i>	Endangered	NV Endangered

ANIMAL SPECIES		LISTING STATUS	
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State
Amargosa River pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon nevadensis amargosae</i>	BLM SS	CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Saratoga Springs pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon nevadensis nevadensis</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Cottonball Marsh pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon salinus milleri</i>		Threatened
Salt Creek pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon salinus salinus</i>		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
Amargosa Canyon speckled dace	<i>Rhinichthys osculus</i> ssp 1		CDF&G "Species of Special Concern"
INSECTS			
Furnace Creek naucorid bug	<i>Ambrysus funebris</i>		
Saratoga Springs Belostoma bug	<i>Belostoma saratogae</i>	NPS SS	
monarch butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>		
Furnace Creek riffle beetle	<i>Microcylloepus formicoideus</i>	NPS SS	
unnamed riffle beetle	<i>Microcylloepus similis</i>	NPS SS	
Amargosa Naucorid bug	<i>Pelocoris shoshone amargosus</i>	NPS SS	
Saline Valley Snow Front Scarab beetle	<i>Polyphylla anteronivea</i>		
Death Valley June beetle	<i>Polyphylla erratica</i>	NPS SS	
Devils Hole riffle beetle	<i>Stenelmis calida calida</i>	NPS SS	
SNAILS			
Badwater snail	<i>Assiminea infima</i>	NPS SS	
Oasis Valley spring snail	<i>Pyrgulopsis micrococcus</i>	NPS SS	
Grapevine Springs elongate tryonia	<i>Tryonia margae</i>	NPS SS	
robust tryonia	<i>Tryonia robusta</i>	NPS SS	
Grapevine Springs squat tryonia	<i>Tryonia rolandi</i>	NPS SS	
Cottonball Marsh tryonia	<i>Tryonia salina</i>	NPS SS	
Amargosa tryonia	<i>Tryonia variegata</i>	NPS SS	

STATUS EXPLANATIONS

Federal

NPS SS = National Park Service Sensitive Species = Any species or infraspecies not otherwise designated whose population characteristics warrant special management or more intensive monitoring. Consideration may include but is not limited to: local rarity; endemism, Park management objectives, usefulness of species as an indicator species, vulnerability to population declines; human disturbance; political concern / public interest

BLM SS = Bureau of Land Management Sensitive Species = Sensitive species are those designated by a State Director, usually in cooperation with the State agency responsible for managing the species as sensitive. They are those species that are: (1) under status review by the FWS/NMFS; or (2) whose numbers are declining so rapidly that Federal listing may become necessary; or (3) with typically small and widely dispersed populations; or (4) those inhabiting ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats.

Endangered = any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Threatened = any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Proposed species = any species of fish, wildlife, or plant that is proposed in the Federal Register to be listed under section 4

of the Endangered Species Act.

State

CDFG “Species of Special Concern” = An administrative designation given to vertebrate species that appear to be vulnerable to extinction because of declining populations, limited ranges, and/or continuing threats. Some species may be just starting to decline, while others may have already reached the point where they meet the criteria for listing as a threatened or endangered species.

**TABLE C-2: PLANTS OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WITHIN DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
(Federally or State Listed or Proposed Species known to occur within Death Valley National
Park are bolded)**

PLANT SPECIES		LISTING STATUS		CNPS	CNPS RED CODE
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal*	State	CNPS	
Mormon needle grass	<i>Achnatherum aridum</i>			2	2-1-1
pinyon rock cress	<i>Arabis dispar</i>			2	2-1-1
Darwin rock cress	<i>Arabis pulchra</i> var. <i>munciensis</i>	BLM SS		2	3-1-1
Shockley's rock cress	<i>Arabis shockleyi</i>			2	3-2-1
white bear poppy	<i>Arctomecon merriamii</i>	BLM SS		1B	2-2-2
Darwin Mesa milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus atratus</i> var. <i>mensanus</i>			1B	3-1-3
black milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus funereus</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-2-2
Geyer's milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus geyeri</i> var. <i>geyeri</i>	BLM SS		2	3-2-1
Gilman's milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus gilmanii</i>			4	1-2-2
shining milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>micans</i>			1B	3-2-3
Sodaville milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>sesquimetralis</i>		CA Endangered; NVCE	1B	3-3-2
curved-pod milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus mohavensis</i> var. <i>hemigyris</i>	BLM SS	NVCE#	1A	
little big-pod milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus platytropis</i>			2	2-2-1
Preuss's milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus preussii</i> var. <i>preussii</i>			2	3-1-1
naked milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus serenoii</i> var. <i>shockleyi</i>			2	2-2-1
scaly cloak fern	<i>Astrolepis cochisensis</i>			2	2-1-1
King's eyelash grass	<i>Blepharidachne kingii</i>			2	2-1-1
red grama	<i>Bouteloua trifida</i>			2	3-1-1
Jaeger's caulostramina	<i>Caulostramina jaegeri</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-2-3
Spring loving centaury	<i>Centaurium namophilum</i>	Threatened	NVCE		
Wooton's lace fern	<i>Cheilanthes wootonii</i>			2	2-1-1
desert birds beak	<i>Cordylanthus eremicus</i> ssp. <i>eremicus</i>			4	1-1-3
Gilman's cymopterus	<i>Cymopterus gilmanii</i>			2	2-1-1
Ripley's cymopterus	<i>Cymopterus ripleyi</i>			2	3-2-1
July gold	<i>Dedeckera eurekaensis</i>	BLM SS	CA Rare	1B	2-1-3
Panamint Dudleya	<i>Dudleya saxosa saxosa</i>			4	1-2-3
Panamint daisy	<i>Enceliopsis covillei</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-2-3
Ash meadows sunray	<i>Enceliopsis nudicaulis</i> var. <i>corrugata</i>	Threatened	NVCE	4	1-1-1
Gilman's goldenbush	<i>Ericameria gilmanii</i>			1B	3-1-3
Reveal's buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum contiguum</i>			2	2-1-1
Wild Rose canyon buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum eremicola</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-1-3
jointed buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum intrafractum</i>			4	1-1-3
Panamint Mountains buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum microthecum</i> var. <i>panamintense</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-1-3
hairy erioneuron	<i>Erioneuron pilosum</i>			2	2-1-1
hot-springs fimbristylis	<i>Fimbristylis thermalis</i>			2	2-2-1
Telescope peak bedstraw	<i>Galium hypotrichium</i> ssp. <i>tomentellum</i>			1B	3-1-3
Ripley's gilia	<i>Gilia ripleyi</i>			2	3-1-1
golden carpet	<i>Gilmania luteola</i>			1B	3-1-3
Inyo hulsea	<i>Hulsea vestita</i> ssp. <i>inyoensis</i>	BLM SS		2	2-2-1
Yellow ivesia	<i>Ivesia arizonica</i> var. <i>arizonica</i>			3	?-?-1
sand linanthus	<i>Linanthus arenicola</i>			2	1-2-1
Panamint Mountains lupine	<i>Lupinus magnificus</i> var. <i>magnificus</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-1-3
rock lady	<i>Maurandya petrophila</i>	BLM SS	CA Rare	1B	3-2-3
Utah monkeyflower	<i>Mimulus glabratus</i> ssp. <i>utahensis</i>			2	3-2-1
Amargosa niterwort	<i>Nitrophila mohavensis</i>	Endangered	CA Endangered	1B	3-3-2
Eureka Dunes evening primrose	<i>Oenothera californica</i> ssp. <i>eurekaensis</i>	Endangered	CA Rare	1B	3-2-3

PLANT SPECIES		LISTING STATUS		CNPS	CNPS RED CODE
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal*	State	CNPS	
Watson's oxytheca	<i>Oxytheca watsonii</i>			2	3-2-1
cliff brake	<i>Pellaea truncata</i>			2	2-1-1
limestone beard tongue	<i>Penstemon calcareus</i>			2	2-1-1
Death Valley beardtongue	<i>Penstemon fruticiformis</i> var. <i>amargosae</i>	BLM SS		4	1-1-2
Pahute Mesa penstemon	<i>Penstemon pahutensis</i>				
Hanaupah rock daisy	<i>Perityle villosa</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-1-3
Death Valley sandpaper plant	<i>Petalonyx thurberi</i> ssp. <i>gilmanii</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-2-3
Saline Valley phacelia	<i>Phacelia amabilis</i>			3	3-1-3
Aven Nelson's phacelia	<i>Phacelia anelsonii</i>			2	2-1-1
Death Valley round-leaved phacelia	<i>Phacelia mustelina</i>		On watch list in NV	1B	2-1-2
Goodding's phacelia	<i>Phacelia pulchella</i> var. <i>gooddingii</i>			2	3-1-1
notch-beaked milkwort	<i>Polygala heterorhyncha</i>			1B	2-1-2
Rusby's mallow	<i>Sphaeralcea rusbyi</i> ssp. <i>eremicola</i>	BLM SS		1B	3-2-3
Eureka Valley dunegrass	<i>Swallenia alexandrae</i>	Endangered	CA Rare	1B	3-2-3
holly-leaved tetradlea	<i>Tetradlea ilicifolia</i>			1B	3-1-3

STATUS EXPLANATIONS

Federal

* See above Status Explanations Section for animals for definition of terms.

State

NVCE = Critically Endangered in Nevada

NVCE# = Recommended for Critically Endangered List, pending formal list

California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

List 1A = Plants presumed extinct in California

List 1B = Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere

List 2 = Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere

List 3 = Plants about which we need more information--a review list

List 4 = Plants of limited distribution--a watch list

CNPS RED Code

R (Rarity)

1 = Rare, but found in sufficient numbers and distributed widely enough that the potential for extinction is low at this time

2 = Distributed in a limited number of occurrences, occasionally more if each occurrence is small

3 = Distributed in one to several highly restricted occurrences, or present in such small numbers that it is seldom reported

E (Endangerment)

1 = Not endangered

2 = Endangered in a portion of its range

3 = Endangered throughout its range

D (Distribution)

1 = More or less widespread outside California

2 = Rare outside California

3 = Endemic to California